MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) and (b) Investment approval for Larji Hydro-electric Project has been given in March, 1987. Infrastructural development work has been taken in hand by Government of Himachal Pradesh. Nathpa Jhakri Hydro-electric Project has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and has also been cleared from the environmental and forest angles. The construction work on the project would follow its investment approval, for which it would be considered after funding aspects have been tied up.

Drawbacks of the New Drug Policy

898 SHRI V NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Manufacturers Association has represented that the new drug policy introduced by Government does not help the industry for large scale production of essential drugs and there is a crisis in the industry;

(b) whether Government are aware that the new drug policy encourages multinationals once again; and

(c) whether Government have studied the drawbacks in this policy and if so, what remedial steps have been taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Most sections of the Indian drugs and Pharmaceuticals industry have, by and large, welcomed and commended the recently announced measures for rationalisation, quality control and growth of drugs and pharmaceutical industry.

Augmentation of Energy Generation

899. DR. H. P. SHARMA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have worked out any comprehensive strategy for augmentation of energy generation in all the three sectors-hydro, thermal and nuclear—to meet the increased demand for power by the agricultural sector,

(b) what is the expected shortfall against demand during the next six months, month-wise,

(c) what steps Government propose to take to accelerate the commissioning of units scheduled to go on stream during 1987-88, and

(d) what is the response of the coordination with the State Electricity Boards for fulfilling these objectives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) The steps taken to improve the availability of power in the country include optimum utilisation of existing capacity, expediting commissioning of new capacity, reducing transmission and distribution losses, commissioning of short gestation projects and implementation of load management and energy conservation measures etc. The States have been advised to meet the requirements of power of agricultural sector on priority and these are, by and large, being fully met.

(b) The actual/anticipated month-wise power supply position during October, 1987 to March, 1988 is given in the enclosed Annexure (*See* Appendix CXLIV, Annexure No 34).

(c) To expedite commissioning of on-going projects, various measures have been taken which include extensive monitoring, expediting supply of equipment and material, visit to project sites by officers to identify and overcome the constraints etc. The need for effective monitoring is also being constantly emphasised on State Authorities.

(d) Discussions are held with the State Authorities from time to time for augmenting generation and expediting commissioning of new capacity and all efforts are being made by the State Authorities in the matter.